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Translation by Tuula Piirainen

Dear member of the family society,

Summer 2013 and the family reunion and the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary are history. The celebration in Kuhmo on July 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> started with the Genealogical Seminar. Jorma Piirainen presented the DNA research and its results. New unique information was found of the early days of our ancestors. Most likely all Piiras, Piirainens, Piironens and Piironens are related to each other. Our ancestors came to the south-west of Finland from Poland, Lithuania and Latvia. The results are based on the Y-DNA test that is one of the biggest made by genealogical associations in Finland. (More also in English on our websites.)

Pekka Piironen (from Kuopio/Nurmes) continues as the chairman of the society for the years 2013 – 2014. The members of the board are Jaakko Kampman (Kuhmo), Antero Piirainen (Sotkamo), Timo Piirainen (Autti), Martti Piironen (Joensuu)\*, Risto Piironen (Nurmes)\* and Mrs. Anja Pulkkinen (Kuhmo)\*. Debuty members are Juha Kampman (Kuhmo), Mrs. Liisa Leppihalme (Nummela) and Terho Piironen (Vantaa)\*. The general meeting approved an amendment to the rules, so that especially distinguished members can be nominated honorary chairman and honorary members. (\*=new member.)

Jorma Piirainen was nominated the honorary chairman. He has been the chairman and vice chairman of the society for a number of years and especially he has distinguished in making the family book and in genealogical research. The general meeting nominated four honorary members: Mrs. Kirsti Peuramo and Mrs. Marjatta Liinaharja were the first ones to research the Eskil Piira family and they are the founder members of the society; Mr. Valdemar Piirainen was the first chairman in 1983 – 86; Mrs. Tuula Piirainen is the treasurer of the society and the other writer of the family book.

In his opening words at the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary Pekka Piironen stated that the family society has been very active during the past years. We have published a family book, the genealogical research benefits totally new methods and the making of family tours has started. Piironen presented with pictures the 30 years of the society. In the lobby of the Kuhmo Arts Centre the visitors could see an exhibition of the past years. Among others, Mrs. Eila Valtanen, the mayor of Kuhmo, brought congratulations on behalf of the town of Kuhmo.

Jorma Piirainen presented the results of the genealogical seminar of Saturday. He proved that there really exists the Piira-tribe, but further research is necessary. He also presented the amendments made to the coat of arms and the meaning of the new symbols.

The honorary chairman and the honorary members were presented to the audience. The standard of the society was given to Dale Piirainen and Robert Feyko (both from the USA), Tenho Piirainen (Kajaani), Antero Piirainen (Sotkamo), Jaakko Kampman (Kuhmo), Olavi Piironen (Turku) and Juho Piirainen (Turku). Finally Kari Piironen, the tango king of 1988, performed.

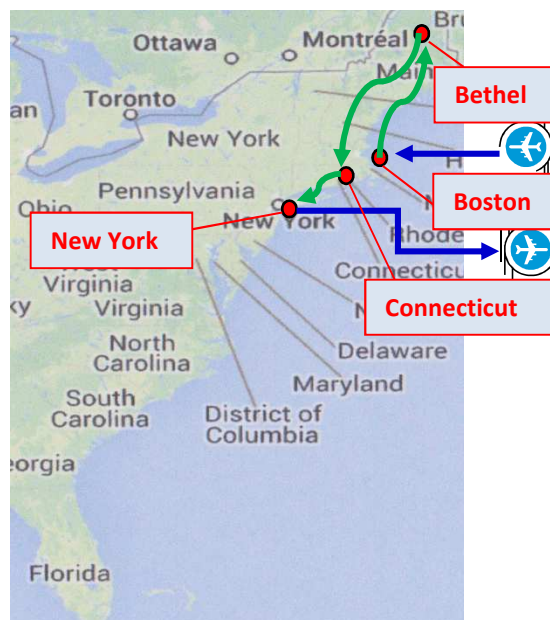
You find more information on our websites [www.eskilpiira.fi](http://www.eskilpiira.fi) . Don't forget to look at the pictures in the Galleria.

### Next summer a trip to the USA

The family society arranges a trip to the USA on the 12<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2014. The main target is the East Coast, the states of Maine, Connecticut and New York. We fly from Helsinki via Reykjavik to Boston. From there we travel with bus to Maine, to the area of Bethel. We shall stay there for three days getting to know e.g. South and West Paris. From Maine we travel to Connecticut. There will be a lot of program every day and we can meet our American cousins. Finally we have three days to look around in New York.

The preliminary price of the tour is 1750 euro/person. There is place for 30 people. In accordance there will be 16 members of the folk dance group Keiketys with us. Totally 46 persons.

For details please look at the preliminary itinerary enclosed.



Our dear American members and friends,

Dale, Richard, Robert ... Your help in making the program and planning the tour in detail has been tremendously valuable and we hope you keep on helping us.

### Membership fee 2013 – 2014

Enclosed you find the membership fee for 2013 – 14, which is the same as before, 30 euros/two years/one member. The membership fees are our main source of income. With it we can continue our task of cherishing the traditions of the family, promoting the feeling of togetherness and continue genealogical research. Should you want to resign the membership please inform us either on our website, by letter or by phone.

We wish our members a colorful autumn and light to the darkening days.

Pekka Piironen  
Pekka Piironen  
chairman

Jaakko Kampman  
Jaakko Kampman  
vice chairman